

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A system, device, and method for bandwidth management in an
5 optical communication system uses an optical service agent to provide
bandwidth management services on behalf of a user. The optical service
agent may monitor bandwidth utilization on a connection, control bandwidth
utilization on a connection, obtain additional bandwidth for a connection,
relinquish excess bandwidth for a connection, and allocate bandwidth among
10 multiple connections, to name but a few. The optical service agent may
interact with an optical communication network and/or various peer users in
order to obtain and reserve communication services.